GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1249
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003
CONSERVATION OF RAIN WATER
GORDHANBHAI JAVIA

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme to conserve rain water in all villages of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be formulated and implemented; and

(d) if not the reason therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Rural Water supply is a state subject. State Governments implement schemes/projects on rural drinking water supply from their own resources. The Government of India supplements their efforts by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). As per the existing guidelines, schemes or projects can be taken up under Sub-Mission on sustainability under ARWSP, which inter-alia also includes rainwater harvesting. State Governments have been delegated powers to utilize upto 5% of ARWSP fund for Sub-Mission on Sustainability which includes sustainability of source, water conservation, water harvesting, water recharge. The Government of India has issued detailed Guidelines for implementation of Schemes and Projects on Sustainability under ARWSP. Hon`ble Members of Parliament have also been appealed to take up projects to augment groundwater recharge like rainwater harvesting,etc. out of MPs Local Area Development fund.The States Government has also beenrequested to take up more and more projects under this scheme. In view of this it is not considered to formulate a new scheme.